

The Student Voice

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An Explanation of Occupy: Wall Street to Worcester

By Kyle Taylor

Protests movements are, and have always been, a defining characteristic of the American spirit. When governments fail to serve, comprehend, or even understand the general population that they are elected to represent, history shows the peoples' will to unite and find common, yet shaky grounds to stand on. The modern protest movement, at a glance, is typically short-lived or unorganized. Neither of these terms, however, adequately defines the occupation of Wall Street in New York City.

On September 17, activists took to the streets of the financial capital of America with a colorful array of signs and statements. They remain encamped there over a month later, with numbers breaching the thou-

sands. The voices of discontent present at Wall Street did and still do not have a single, solid message.

Rather, the Occupy movement aims to be the democratic voice of a diverse range of multi-cultured people that seem to feel as though they have been excluded from the democratic process simply because they do not possess the monetary means to have a true say in politics. This occupation aims to ensure that an open forum of discussion is present at each meeting, encouraging the exchange of ideas and principles amongst protestors.

Activists and participants share concerns common to the nature of nearly any person belonging to the middle or lower classes of the global society. The dominant focus tends to be on economic injustices, garnering a

sense of outrage over the merger of government and corporate business. Most, if not all peoples of the Occupy Wall Street movement, desire reform in the banking, media, and energy resource industries.

Since the movement's inception on the September 17, occupiers across the nation and even the world have gathered in city commons and financial districts in order to show and express their solidarity with the Wall Street faction. Boston, Las Angeles, Seattle, Portland, Rome, Berlin; These cities have large-scale occupations formulating goals and aims for where they would like to see changes within the global economic system.

Although these large cities tend to have a larger presence in the occupy association, small-scale cities like our

very own Worcester have begun to organize a brand of their own Wall Street inhabitation. With the focal point being at the Worcester Commons Park located downtown, advocates for social and economic change hold organized meetings, conduct open discussions on the issues facing their communities, share food and water, and express a genuine exchange of ideas regardless of what the idea may in fact be.

Ben Cummings, a 25 year old social worker at the New England Dream Center for Mental Disabilities, participated in the development of Occupy Worcester. When asked where he sees the movement going, he explained that, "(I'm) hoping to see us grow in numbers throughout the community, taking short-term actions with day occupations in various communities

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Know your rights! Know your Student Government!

By Marion Calabro

The Worcester State University (WSU) Student Government Association (SGA) has been hard at work since the semester's start tackling issues on campus. Each week, campus elected representatives advocate for important student issues. A crucial factor in the strength the SGA is the student community's active participation.

Issues that senate has been actively pursuing this year include debit cards use at Chartwells, extending library hours, and calling for student groups to once again have access to ladders for advertising. The energy senators have been pouring into supporting these changes comes from an active student community voice.

As WSU President, Barry Maloney, states on the campus website: "the

student is the most important person on our campus."

What better way to assert importance as a student than by active participation in student government?

Although Fall elections have passed, there are many opportunities to participate in WSU student government. Attend a meeting, Thursdays in the Foster Room at 4 p.m. and share

changes the WSU student community would like to see. Voice campus opinion on how great or atrocious campus policies are. Students can also contact their class representatives directly or drop in to the Senate Office SC314 during office hours.

Experience student voice in action, talk to your SGA representative today!

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The Student Voice

Rock and Shock in Review

By Susan Rahall

I am an avid horror movie fan. I have seen every Nightmare on Elm Street, Friday the 13th, and Saw - you name it, and I've seen it. As a matter of fact, when I was about 8 or 9 years old, I can remember having a sleepover, and forcing my best friend to stay up all night watching Nightmare on Elm Street. She was never allowed to sleep over again. My point is when I first heard about Rock and Shock, I was super excited, and every year, I missed it. So when I found out that it was that time of the year again I immediately purchased tickets and was fortunate enough to attend and I want to let you in on some of the awesome things you may missed out on, so that when October comes around next year you might be interested in attending.

Here is a little history on the Rock and Shock Convention, WAAF's Kevin Barbare and Mass Concert's General Manager Gina Miglioizzi came up with the brilliant idea of a Horror Convention with a bit of Rock flair. This brainchild was dubbed Rock and Shock, and for the last eight years, has been New England's only Horror Convention.

Each year the DCU Center and Palladium has hosted some of Horror movies' biggest names such as George A. Romero, Danny Trejo, and Sid Haig, to name a few. In addition to the plethora of horror film stars, they combined some of the biggest names in rock, such as Alice Cooper, Rob Zombie, GWAR, and Insane Clown Posse to turn downtown Worcester the Mecca of Mayhem. This year the convention was held on October 14-16, with a pre-party concert that, as long as someone was a ticket holder, could attend on Thursday night.

As I walked toward the DCU Convention Center, I could see the sidewalk had begun to fill up with a blend of monsters, ghouls, and Juggalos aka fans of Insane Clown Posse (the Insane Clown Posse was performing that night). I dashed past a horde of Juggalettes as they covered themselves with Faygo (a popular soda pop amongst ICP fans). Entering the DCU, visitors could see that the arena had been split into three sections: vendors, celebrities, and an area for paneled discussions.

This year's Rock and Shock featured some of the biggest names in Horror. The main attraction was Robert Englund who is better known as the one and only Freddy Kruger. Also in attendance were Derek Mears, Kane

Hodder, Lance Henrickson, William Forsythe, Bill Mosely, Gary Busey and Rowdy Roddy Piper, just to name a few. They were tucked away in an area sectioned off by red curtains, and attendees were able to take pictures and get autographed photos for a fee ranging from \$10-\$30. Right outside of the line of fans waiting to meet Robert Englund, were cast members from his movie Inkubus, and if people were lucky enough, they could get a free movie poster autographed by the cast, for free.

The second area is where the vendors were, here you could find directors, writers, costume contests, CD/DVD distributors, toy and model makers, comic book writers and artists, and tattoo artists galore! Vendors from all over New England sold a variety of wares from custom fitted fangs to horror masks molded to fit one's own face, to Zombie caricatures. The local tattoo artists, who specialized in "Horror" inspired tattoos, and had a line of eager fans waiting for their chance to get some new ink. There was something for everyone!

The third and final area was where Fangoria (America's Horror magazine) sponsored paneled discussions. This was a more intimate way for horror fans to listen to stories and the experiences of some of their favorite actors. There was even a chance to take a few pictures with them before they had to head back to their assigned area where they would continue to meet with fans until the convention came to an end each evening. Saturday night the red carpet was rolled out, and fans that were lucky enough to attend the world premiere of the movie Inkubus were treated to a Q&A with the cast which is a new addition to the Rock and Shock schedule.

Since Rock and Shock does not solely focus on just the "Shock" part of the convention, in the evening attendees headed over to the palladium where the "Rock" half was taking place. This year, Rock and Shock was the host of many well-known bands including Mushroomhead, and as previously mentioned, the Insane Clown Posse. Fans of Mushroomhead were excited and surprised when the band made a stop at the DCU Center before their performance, and took time to give hugs, take photos and sign autographs before they were scheduled to perform. Other bands that were featured were Devin Townsend and Alsenia and the Rolling Bones, to name a few. By now, you must be thinking, "This is great, but how can I afford this? I am a college student - I don't have this



Photo by Gina Before

kind of money to spend..." Well that my friends, is where you are wrong. Rock and Shock is super affordable, tickets this year ranged from \$15-\$25 and if attendants were interested in going all three days, then they could purchase a three day pass at a pretty

reasonable price. If you are a horror fan, than I suggest you start saving now, so when Rock and Shock returns next year, you will be able to kick off the Halloween season with a unique experience that will leave you feeling ROCKED AND SHOCKED!!

Occupy: Wall Street to Worcester

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around town in order to get our numbers up and, ultimately, occupy the commons."

Cummings' ideas are really quite essential to the development of any true organized movement. In order to gather true representation and to inhabit the commons on a recognizable scale, occupy protestors must reach out to individual communities in order to discover the specific needs, problems, and desires of diverse people.

On Thursday October 20, a meeting was held on the commons with active discussion on particular facts that protestors deem unacceptable. A pamphlet written by Randy Feldman of Bigmouthmanifesto.com ascribes responsibility of economic injustice to the moral degeneration of a small percentage of Americans who indulge in greed.

According to the writing of Feldman, "people should not need hand outs, charity, WIC, or food stamps, or even unions to get a fair wage for those who have a track record of working- they should have a law that guarantees wages that provide for a decent life, basic health care, and education for all."

The question seems to be: How does a movement mostly dominated by youthful twenty something year olds garner the strength to impact the future of social and economic life in America and even the world entirely? What are exactly the ways to go about changing this system of corruption?

There is the proposed intervention of

the government to oversee and regulate corporations if, and only if, they manage to detach from one another. There is also the idea, as Feldman draws out, that indulgence, hoarding, and greed are morally corrupt actions in which a small group of individuals participate. If in fact this is a moral issue, it may need to be treated as one-encouraging ethical change on an individual level.

For example, it is a personal responsibility of an individual to decide if he/she wishes to withdraw his/her money from the banking system and destroy their credit cards in order to collectively generate an effect on the system that has led them astray. This would, in fact, be taking some sort of morally obligated stance.

The primary organizer of "International Marry a Corporation Day" Samuel Linstrude, an unemployed teacher and freelance writer, expressed the idea that, "the corporate and governmental marriage is the biggest threat and infringement to the democratic process." On an overarching level, the biggest concerns of the movement in its entirety are corruption, greed, and moral degeneration in the government and corporate structures of the world.

With the movement only growing in these coming fall and winter months, it is clear that it does not aim to dissipate rapidly. Once an idea has emerged, and once voices are collectively heard, then it can hardly be ignored. Occupy Wall Street, Boston, Helena, Paris, or Worcester- The world is on the verge of emerging changes.

Fall Sports In Brief

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team posted a key 3-2 win over Bridgewater State last week. Junior Becky Lebel posted a double-double with 15 kills and 20 digs to earn Co-MASCAC Player of the Week honors. The win enabled the Lancers to clinch a spot in the upcoming conference tournament on November 5. Lebel currently leads the team with 172 kills and 213 aces while freshman Alyssa Jasper has impressed with 169 kills and 25 aces. Sophomore Vicki O'Brien has a squad-best 290 digs. The Blue and Gold will take on Mass Maritime on "Senior Day" on Wednesday at 7 PM before they close out the regular season with a pair of road matches against Plymouth State and Rhode Island College on Saturday.

Field Hockey

The field hockey team earned a key pair of wins this last week with a 3-1 road win over Southern Maine and a 4-0 victory on Saturday at home against Eastern Connecticut. Senior Samantha Janda tallied eight points in the 2-0 week with two goals and the game-winning helper in their triumph over the Huskies while sophomore Lindsey McGeary added two markers en route to dispatching the Warriors. Fourth-year Sarah Cozens has a team-best 14 goals, which is just two tallies off from tying the school record which is held by four former players. The Lancers will close out the season on Saturday at 11 AM on "Senior Day" against Fitchburg State. With a win WSU will earn a bid to their first Little East Conference Tournament since the 2008 season.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team suffered a 1-0 setback to Salem State this past weekend at home in their only game of the week. With a four-way tie for first place in the MASCAC standings, the Lancers must win their final regular season contest at Fitchburg State at 11 AM on Saturday to avoid failing to qualify for their first conference tournament since 2003. Statistically speaking the Blue and Gold lead the MASCAC in goals allowed (13) and goals against average (0.85). Senior Danielle Clifford and junior Brianne Beckman are both tied for the team lead in points (13) while freshman Therese Morss and Clifford both have five markers apiece. Nine players have two or more goals this season for WSU. Worcester State will also play on the road at UMass Dartmouth on Tuesday 3:30.

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team went 1-1 this past week as they defeated UMass

Dartmouth 5-1 and then they would lose on Saturday to Salem State by the same score. Senior Justin Beila paced the Lancers in their win over the Corsairs with a hand in every goal as he finished with two goals – including the game-winning marker – and three dishes. Sophomore Alex Wolfel, who leads the squad with 13 points (5 goals – 3 assists) had WSU's lone tally in their loss to the Vikings. Worcester State will play twice at home next week starting with WPI at 7 PM on Wednesday and Fitchburg State at 2 o'clock on Saturday.

Football

The football team edged out Coast Guard, 31-30, on Saturday to assure themselves their first winning season since the 2004 season. Fourth-year quarterback Tony Tokarz earned NEFC Offensive Player of the Week accolades for tossing a career-best 298 yards with four touchdowns including the game-winning 49-yard scoring strike to AJ Scerra early on in the fourth quarter. Senior Marcus Price also rushed for 173 yards and a touchdown against the Bears to eclipse the record for rushing yards in a season. Price has 1,203 yards this season on the ground. After the Blue and Gold play at Fitchburg State this Saturday at 1:30 they close out the regular season with a home game on November 5 against Framingham State at 12 PM.

Women's Cross Country

On Friday, October 14, the women's cross country team would take three of the top ten spots to settle for third place out of the 17 teams in the competition. Leading the way for WSU was sophomore Ali Barrett's time in third place followed by classmate Kelsey Cartwright (ninth) and freshman Jennifer Cardinal (10th). On Saturday, Worcester State will compete at the MASCAC/New England Alliance Championships which will be held at UMass Dartmouth on their campus course.

Men's Cross Country

At the Emmanuel Saints Invitational, the men's cross country team would place seventh out of 16 teams in attendance on Friday, October 14. Junior Tim Mazioka paced the effort in 29th place while sophomore Pat Daley added 34th and first-year Patrick Bova notched 37th. This Saturday, the Lancers will run at the MASCAC/New England Alliance Championships, which will be hosted by UMass Dartmouth

Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team finished the season on a high note with a 6-3 triumph over Western Connecticut last Tuesday. Junior Erin Desmarais, sophomore Brook Michanzyk and freshman Miranda Biron highlighted the win as they all won their singles and doubles matchups. This season

Biron would go 7-5 overall to help lead the squad (6-2 at fourth singles) and Michanzyk was 5-5 in solo court action. Both would double-up for a 3-5 mark in pairs play. The Blue and Gold ended their year with an overall record of 4-9 and 1-7 in Little East play. The young squad will only graduate one player and they look to return four freshmen, two sophomores and two juniors next fall.

Men's Golf

The men's golf team ended the season in 34th place at the two-day New England Intercollegiate Golf Association Championships. After shooting a score of 350 on the first day, the Lancers shaved 30 strokes off their score to settle for an overall card of 680 (+104) at the par 72 Captains Golf Course. The squad was paced by junior Joe Belanger and sophomore Zach Mahan who both fired a 79 on the second day. Third-year Chris Ellis and Mahan also tied for ninth at the Nichols Bison Invitational to help the squad finish in third out of seven teams at the invitational held at the par 72 Green Hill Golf Course. With some practice on the links in the off-season, Worcester State five should be back to make a solid run in the spring.

Editor's Note: This report contains information as of October 23.

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Worcester State Football Team Drops Home- coming Game

By Ryan Kuketz

The Worcester State University Football Team lost their second consecutive game on Saturday, October 15 in the homecoming game against Bridgewater State University, 34-23 due in large part to the Bridgewater State rushing attack.

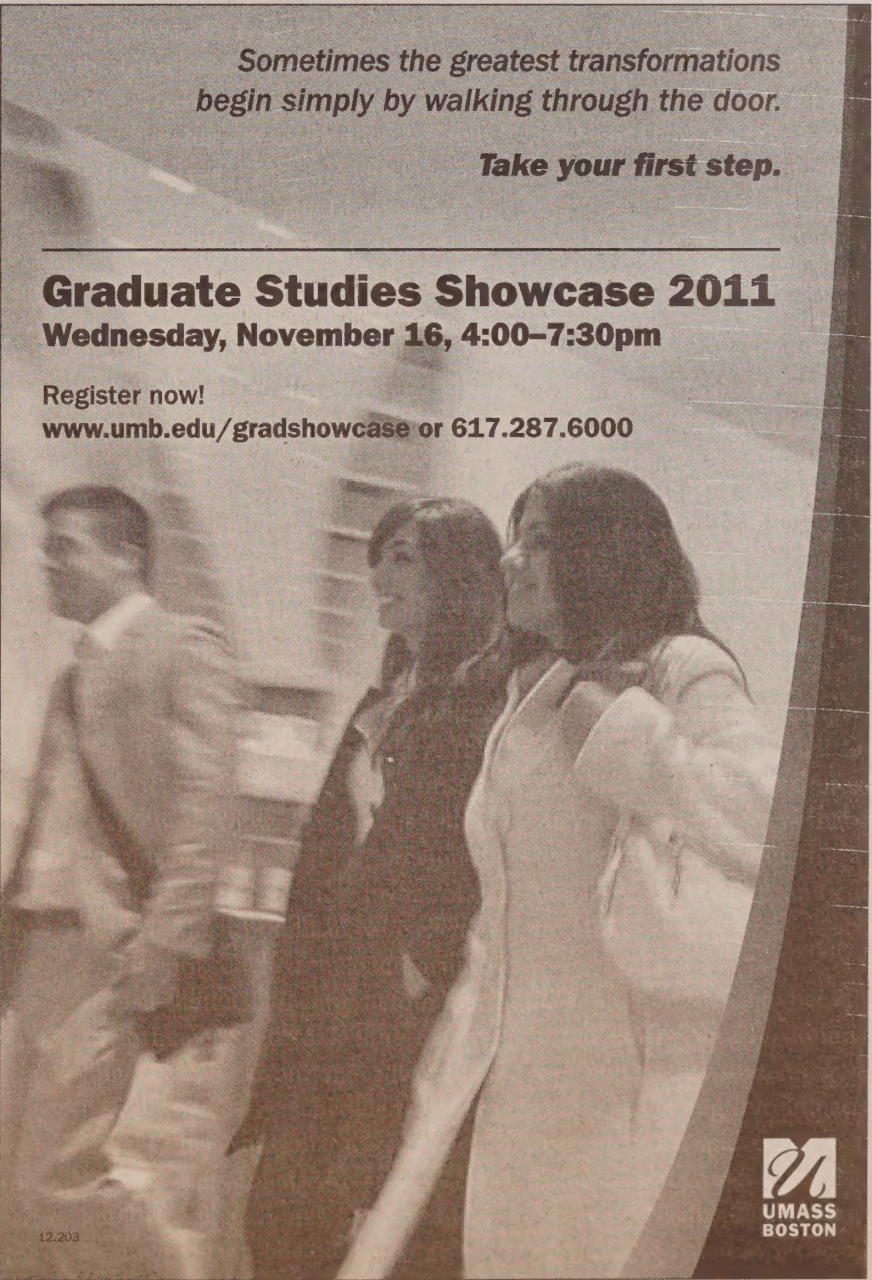
BSU freshman running back, Blaise Branch had 206 rushing yards and Worcester State couldn't make stops when they needed to the most. WSU took an early lead in the game when Tony Tokarz threw a five yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Kenny Russell four minutes and 20 seconds into the game to give the Lancers a 7-0 lead. That would be the only scoring for the Lancers until late in the first half when a fumble was recovered by Ray St. Laurent which led to another touchdown thrown by Tokarz with 1:27 left in the first half to cut the deficit to 20-14.

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Editorial: Professors Should Check In On How Well Students Understand Material

By Ashley Arseneau

With the fall semester is half over students have most likely adjusted to the teaching styles of their current professors and what said professors expect from them as students. Students are also learning what they do not like about their professors; whether it be petty complaints the homework load or more important things like a professors way of teaching not be effective for them. Things like this will come up every semester. With this, the question of what makes a good professor is always brought up as well.

In a recent article appearing in the Boston Globe the question of what makes a good teacher was raised. In this article, the writer wrote that a good teacher was one who "would not just teach for the test" but would teach students in a way would that made people remember the material after the test and the course were over. This was done by drilling students until they had a clear understanding of what was being taught.

In college, many teachers prepare a

lecture and assign reading hoping students will understand the material by the time of the exam. This requires students to be self-starters, which is a good trait to learn in college for the job market, but if a student does not get a chance to see if they are getting a clear understanding of the knowledge before the test, they could be set up for failure.

Drilling students on facts seems tiring and unnecessary, especially at this point in one's educational career, but some assessment of knowledge outside of tests would be useful. In some classes there are assignments that accompany tests to gauge how well students understand the material, but in other classes there are just a few tests that count towards someone's entire grade. If a student does not learn until a test they have not fully understood the material and get a bad grade they have to play catch up for the rest of the semester.

It is not exactly the teacher's fault if students are not learning as they would like them too. However, the

old fashioned lecture and test only format does not always work for every student. And, no one will expect a professor to ask them every class if they understand the material, but they should on occasion assess students' knowledge on what they are being taught and not just assume the student come into the class already knowing everything they should for the class, especially if what the professor wants students to know is something most students would have been taught already.

The frustration that someone feels when a teacher says a phrase like, "I do not have the time to teach you all this stuff, you need to already know it to understand what I will teach you," can be endless. Students taking courses outside major cannot help that they do not know as much information on a subject as students in the major pertaining to that course and require some understanding from a teacher.

Worcester State Football Team Drops Homecoming Game

Continued from page 3

After the Lancers defense stopped Bridgewater for a three and out, the Lancer defense blocked a punt which was recovered by Graham Asum who returned the ball 7 yards for a touchdown and after a missed point after attempt, the game was tied at 20 with 50 seconds left in the first half.

BSU dominated the time of possession in the second half. The first drive of the half was seven minutes and 33 seconds and resulted in a missed a field goal. Worcester State got the ball back but only had it for one minute and 36 seconds. That would be the only Lancers possession of the first half and BSU would have a drive that lasted over nine minutes that resulted in another missed field goal.

The Lancers took the a 23-20 lead with over 11 minutes left in the game,

but Bridgewater answered with a Touchdown after a drive that lasted over six minutes and after an interception thrown by Tokarz on the second play of the ensuing drive, Bridgewater would go on to score another touchdown which ensured the win for Bridgewater State.

Bridgewater State had possession of the ball nearly double the amount of time WSU did, as they had possession with 39 minutes 47 seconds compared to the Lancer's time of possession of 20 minutes and 13 seconds.

It was clearly a hard loss for the Lancers to handle as multiple players declined to comment after the game.

The Lancers have not defeated Bridgewater State since 2004 and are 9-17 against their conference rival since becoming a varsity sport in 1986.

Worcester State Football dropped to 5-2 on the season and 2-2 in conference play.

Editor's Note: The Lancers bounced back Septmeber 22, against Coast Guard 31 - 30.

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